

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL AQABA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 034937

EXDIS TOSEC 298

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, LE

SUBJECT: GODLEY'S TALK WITH TAQLA ON CAIRO ARAB LEAGUE
DEFENSE COUNCIL MEETING

REF: BEIRUT 1996

FOR ATHERTON FROM SOBER

1. ASSUME YOU HAVE SEEN BEIRUT 1996 REPORTING RUN-DOWN
GIVEN GODLEY BY TAQLA ON ARAB LEAGUE DEFENSE COUNCIL MEET-
ING. TAQLA TOLD GODLEY THAT LEBANESE HAD TURNED DOWN OF-
FERS FROM OTHER ARAB STATES OF PERSONNEL AND RELATIVELY
SOPHISTICATED MILITARY EQUIPMENT BUT INDICATED GOL HAD
AGREED TO ACCEPT ARTILLERY AND ANTI-AIRCRAFT WEAPONS. TAQLA
DID NOT SAY EXACTLY WHAT THESE ARMS WERE BUT DESCRIBED THEM
AS PURELY DEFENSIVE AND SAID HE DOUBTED THEY WOULD BE AR-
RIVING IN LEBANON FOR SOME TIME. HE ASKED THAT WE PASS THIS
ALONG TO ISRAELIS AND IN SO DOING TRY TO CONVINCE GOI TO
ABSTAIN FROM FURTHER MILITARY ACTION IN SOUTH LEBANON.

2. ARN HAS ALREADY HAD LOW-KEY INQUIRY FROM TURGEMAN OF IS-
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RAELI EMBASSY ABOUT CAIRO MEETING. BELIEVE IT MIGHT BE USE-

FUL TO PASS ALONG TO TURGEMAN ABOVE INFORMATION. WE WOULD
NOT TELL TURGEMAN OF TAQLA'S REQUEST FOR USG PITCH TO
ISRAELIS. INGERSOLL

SECRET

NNN

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